

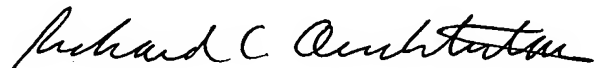
Serial No.: 10/767,587  
Preliminary Amendment and Submission of Formal Drawings

## REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Paragraph [00044] of the specification and the second occurrence of the reference numeral 53 in FIG. 6 on sheet 6/15 have been amended so that reference numeral 53 consistently designates the upper ring and the reference numeral 55 designates the lower split ring, as described in paragraph [00041] on page 12 of the specification as originally filed.

Respectfully submitted,

22 June 2004



Richard C. Auchterlonie  
Reg. No. 30,607

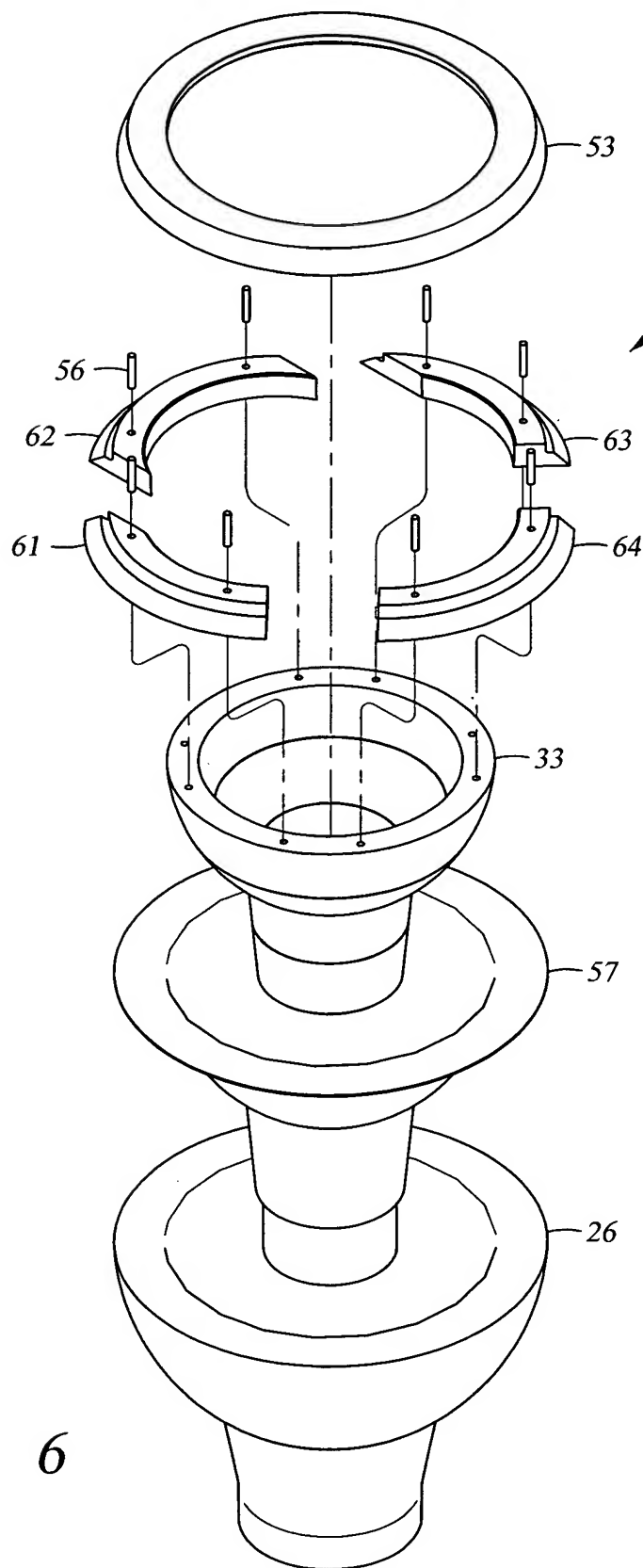
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Ser. 10/767,587

Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

6/15



55  
Reference No. 53  
changed to 55

Fig. 6